

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 VO-03 SCA-01 PPT-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 EUR-25 USIA-12 DODE-00 L-03 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0068

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0633

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

REF: STATE 090652

1. WHAT USG DOES RE ITS LIBYAN VISA APPLICATIONS HAS LITTLE TO DO WITH NATO COM'S PROPOSAL DESCRIBED TRIPOLI 0624 . LATTER ENVISAGES PARALLEL ACTION BY AFFECTED STATES AND IF IT GARNERS ENOUGH SUPPORT MIGHT BE EFFECTIVE IN CHANGING LARG'S MIND, OR IN JUST EMBARRASSING IT. MORE LIKELY THE LATTER.

2. MEANWHILE, OUR VIRTUAL EMBARGO ON LIBYAN VISA APPLICATIONS HAS BEEN A BUST, PARTLY BECAUSE NO ONE COUNTRY CAN BRING ENOUGH PRESSURE ON LARG AND ALSO BECAUSE WE WERE OBVIOUSLY ISOLATED.

3. THIS POST POINTED OUT THESE FACTORS MONTHS AGO AND IN VIEW THEREOF ARGUED THAT WE SHOULD LOOK TO WHAT WE BELIEVED WERE OUR LONG- TERM INTERESTS SO FAR AS LIBYAN STUDENTS CONCERNED. IF DEPT AGREES WE HAVE A SPECIAL AND REALISTIC INTEREST THERE, THEN IT IS UP TO DEPT TO MAKE THE CONSEQUENT DECISIONS. IF NOT, SO BE IT.

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4. IN OTHER WORDS, DO NOT BELIEVE WE HERE SHOULD BE PUT IN POSITION OF HAVING TO DO SPECIAL PLEADING AT DEPTS REQUEST-- OR TO DO ANY MORE FACTUAL REPORTING ON LIBYAN VISA RESTRICTIONS OR RELAXATIONS THEREOF THAN WE ARE ALREADY DOING. IMPLICATION OF REFTEL THAT " WE WILL MAKE UP OUR MINDS SOON AS YOU TELL US THE SITUATION IS CLARIFIED" LOOKS TO ME LIKE A FORMULA FOR CONTINUED INDECISION, AND I WILL NOT BE A PARTY TO IT.

5. IF DEPT IS GOING TO RELENT ON STUDENT VISAS, I WOULD OF COURSE DEFER ISSUANCE OF MOST OF THEM UNTIL LARG IS NOTIFIED WE ARE FOLLOWING THE ROUTE OF THE NATO COM'S PROPOSAL, IF WE ARE GOING TO ACCEPT THAT. THIS IS ANOTHER REASON WHY MAY 15 POLAD'S MEETING SHOULD NOT BECOME ANOTHER CLAMBAKE BUT AN OCCASION FOR EXERCISE OF SUG AND NATO DECISION- MAKING.
JOSIF

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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